

Appl. No. 09/871,318

Amtd. dated Sept. 2, 2003

Reply to Final Office Action of Nov. 5, 2002

REMARKS

Claims 3 to 5, 14 and 17 to 19 remain in this application. Claims 1, 2, 6-13, 15 and 16, are canceled without prejudice to Applicants' right to pursue prosecution of these claims in a later filed application. The cancellation of the claims is not intended to be a dedication to the public of the subject matter of the claims as originally filed. New claims 20 to 39 have been added by this amendment.

In the Final Office Action enclosed with the Decision on Petition, the Office indicated that claims 3-5 and 14-19 are allowable. Claims 1, 2 and 6-13 remained rejected. In a sincere effort to place the application in condition for allowance, the rejected claims have been canceled herein and the allowed claims have been amended to incorporate any elements that were part of a rejected base claim. Specific support for the amendment to claim 3 is found on page 7, line 12 of the specification and support for the new claims can be found throughout the specification as filed. An issue of new matter is not raised by these amendments and entry thereof is respectfully requested. The claims canceled herein are to be pursued in a continuation applications.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and/or the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 50-2518, referencing attorney docket no. 7009742001. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Page 7

PA:52115478.1/2023913-7009742001